



First, Pascagoula Centennial

E. J. Smith was the marshal for the parade of First Baptist Church, Pascagoula, through the city in observation of the church's 100th anniversary, May 22. He is shown with Mrs. Walter Trehern, who was judged the best dressed woman of the centennial observation. (Other photos are on page 4).

Laymen Challenged To Broaden Ministries

WASHINGTON (BP) — Trustees of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission were challenged by five presidents here to provide prayer, leadership, influence and cooperation in meeting needs locally, nationally, and around the world.

President Jimmy Carter asked for the prayer help while the trustees were visiting him in the Rose Garden of the White House.

A trustee of the commission for six years until his resignation last November, President Carter told the directors of the missions agency for men and boys:

"I not only need your prayers, I need your open criticisms when I make mistakes. We have a chance to make our country greater than in the past. But it depends not on the identity of the President, but on the common trust and strength of our people."

In introducing the President, Commission Executive Director Glendon McCullough said, "You've taken some good stands, and you've built a good image, and we're proud of you."

David Wong of Hong Kong, president of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA), urged the agency on opening night of the four-day meeting at the Capital Hilton to supply Baptist men throughout the world with leadership, personnel and expertise.

"The people outside the United States look to the Brotherhood Commission for leadership, personnel and expertise to help the men in their spiritual life and general well being."

James Sullivan of Nashville, president of the Southern Baptist Con-

vention (SBC), told of the need for cooperation between lay people and the clergy.

"I want to find some way to get more lay people to annual sessions of the Southern Baptist Convention," he said.

With pastors already making up 85 percent of the messengers who register at the SBC, these additional lay people will lead to a better cross fertilization of ideas, Sullivan said.

Jack Harwell of Atlanta, president of the Southern Baptist Press Association, focused on the value of Christian influence.

The editor of Georgia Baptists' Christian Index challenged the trustees to lead lay people to emphasize the good qualities of others and to take Christian stands on Biblical truths which may conflict with social practice.

James Landes of Dallas, executive secretary of the Baptist General Convention of Texas and president of the Baptist State Executive Secretaries Association, declared more lay people need to assume their responsibilities as pastors, prophets and priests.

The duty of the clergy is to coach, train and direct lay people so the fellowship will become a ministering company, Landes said.

"His (the ordained person's) task is to enable lay people to become pastors, prophets, and priests in the New Testament sense," declared the former pastor.

The trustees also heard presentations by Francis Dennis, Liberian ambassador to the United States; Robert

Denny, general secretary of BWA, and representatives of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

Besides the visit to the White House, the trustees also lunched with 13 Baptist congressmen on Capitol Hill.

In a report to the trustees, McCullough said the denomination needs an alliance between mission agencies and mission volunteers to make SBC hold efforts "as bold as they can be."

"We're coming into a day of the minister in the pew. It's the 'in thing' to talk about the involvement of the pew minister. Let's be careful not to just use the layman for what we can get out of him. Lay people are not the 'disposables' in our society."

Recounting efforts of SBC agency heads to work together as a team, McCullough said, future projects should include a national missions prayer network and a computerized skills bank service containing the

(Continued on page 5)

Church Calls Husband-Wife Pastor Team In Kentucky

LOUISVILLE (BP) — John Sylvester and Joy Johnson — a husband-wife team — have been called as co-pastors of Twenty-third and Broadway Baptist Church, an integrated, 150-member Southern Baptist congregation in West Louisville.

The husband-wife combination, probably a first in the Southern Baptist Convention, will assume duties, June 1. Sylvester, former pastor of Big Spring Baptist Church, Breckinridge County, Ky., is expected to lead in his wife's ordination to the gospel ministry on June 3.

The couple, both graduates of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, have been members of the 150-member congregation of blacks and whites since last February, and he has served as an administrative assistant at the church. They are white.

Sylvester, 29, and Johnson 27, who married in Dec. 1975, noted that she has retained her maiden name because they are both professionals and keeping their separate names would make it easier for them to maintain their identity as ministers, according to a report in the Western Recorder, Kentucky Baptist state newspaper.

They will alternate preaching and share equally in every respect as pastors, but, the Louisville Times reported, they will divide responsibility along the lines of their individual experience and their redvidue responsibilities as time progresses.

For example, Sylvester will reportedly assume more of the administrative duties at the outset and Johnson, who has training and experience as a social worker and counselor, will initially concentrate more on the counseling sessions.

Another unusual aspect of the church's action is that a woman

RALEIGH, N. C. (EP) — United Methodist and Southern Baptist leaders in North Carolina have urged the state legislature to pass a bill directed

against adult book stores, and X-rated movie houses.

Bishop Robert Blackburn of the North Carolina Conference of the Un-



Trustees Honor Noonkesters

Ralph Noonkester, and Mrs. Noonkester, center couple, were honored on May 21, by the William Carey College Trustees on the occasion of their quarter of a century anniversary as part of the college family. Noonkester has served as president for 21 years, as academic dean for three years, as religion department head for one year, and as religion professor for one year. Mrs. Noonkester, in addition to having been first lady for 21 years, previously was registrar. She was presented with a silver bowl and floral arrangement. A \$26,000 gift check, from funds donated by trustees and friends, was presented and designated for the Noonkester Library Development Fund. Shown with the honored couple are Carey trustees John D. Thomas, left, and Bruce Aultman and their wives.

Today's Chain Letter

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH (RNS) — "If you are unhappy with your Church minister," says the bulletin of the Salt Lake First Unitarian Church, "simply have your church board send a copy of this letter to six other churches who are also tired of their ministers."

"Then bundle up your minister and send him (or her) to the church on the top of the list in the letter. Add the name of your church to the bottom of the letter."

"Within a week," the bulletin promises, "you will receive 16,435 ministers, and one of them should be a dandy."

"Have faith in this chain letter for ministers. Do not break the chain. One church broke the chain and got their old minister back."

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Baptists Lead

Pari-Mutuel Push Slowed In Tennessee, Missouri

NASHVILLE (BP) — A Baptist-led effort has beaten back — at least temporarily — an effort in the Tennessee general assembly (state legislature) to legalize pari-mutuel betting, while a similar effort was defeating pari-

mutuel betting forces in Missouri.

Supporters of a bill in Tennessee, calling for the establishment of a race track allowing pari-mutuel betting, backed down on the last day of the session of the legislature when they couldn't build adequate support in the state Senate for passage.

John Bedford, a Memphis pastor and chairman of the Christian Life Committee of the Shelby Baptist Association, which had opposed betting, praised the efforts of William Ray Ingram, a Memphis attorney and active Baptist layman, and Alvin C. Shackleford of Brentwood, editor of Baptist and Reflector, statewide Tennessee Baptist newspaper, for their personal work with state legislators.

In Missouri, the state House of Representatives turned back the latest attempt to permit pari-mutuel betting by a vote of 88-57. The bill had cleared a House committee by a wide margin and had the backing of St. Louis officials and the Teamsters Union. The Missouri Baptist Convention, the Christian Civic Foundation and the Mission Catholic Conference led the fight against the bill.

In Tennessee, pari-mutuel supporters postponed action on the bill before a vote, leaving the way clear for it to be revived when the legislature recon-

venes in January. Supported by Shelby County business leaders, who want their local government to establish a track for horse racing to generate revenue, the bill asks the legislature to permit Shelby County residents to decide by referendum if they want gambling at publicly owned tracks.

In Missouri, more than 40,000 signatures on petitions were presented to the state representatives in the weeks

before the vote. Petitions came from representatives' local districts and were coordinated by the Christian Civic Foundation.

Baptist leaders in both states expressed appreciation for the results, commenting that gambling has no place in the financial structures of state government since it works its greatest hardships on those who can least afford it.

Burned Church Gets Meeting Space Offers

The Sunday before First Baptist Church of Bay St. Louis burned May 16, the congregation had voted unanimously to renovate the sanctuary. The trustees had also voted to give \$500 to nearby Robinson Chapel, Church of God in Christ which had previously been destroyed by a tornado.

So during a short stand-up service in the charred sanctuary on May 22, the congregation affirmed the trustees' recommendation of the gift, and began making decisions for their future.

Pastor Nathan Barber reported that

the fire burned the whole front of the sanctuary and the adjoining fellowship area and kitchen and the attic portion of the education building. The fire, still of undetermined origin, burned or charred all woodwork in the sanctuary. Damage estimates are still incomplete.

Meeting temporarily in Christ Episcopal Church, the congregation had offers for meeting space from two Methodist churches, a Baptist church, a Catholic church, a boarding high school and a funeral home.

Gilbert Begins Duties As Missionary-In-Residence

James P. Gilbert, furloughing missionary to Ecuador will begin duties as missionary-in-residence for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, June 1, announced Earl Kelly, board executive secretary-treasurer.

Gilbert and his wife, the former Dorothy Smith, of Memphis, Tenn., are both graduates of Clarke College and Mississippi College. He also earned the bachelor of divinity degree from New Orleans Seminary.

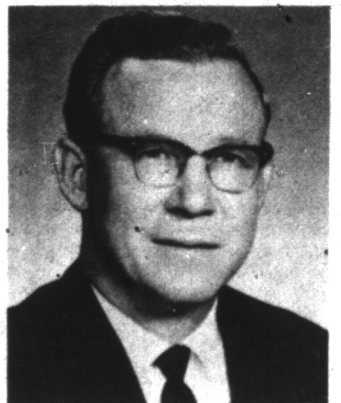
While on assignment with the MBCEB, Gilbert will be attached to the Stewardship Department, primarily promoting the Cooperative Program, but available for church and association meetings, revivals, and will assist other MBCEB departments with meetings on their request, and as time permits.

Gilbert replaces Edd Trott as missionary-in-residence, who is re-

turning as foreign missionary to Brazil.

Appointed by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in 1957, the Gilberts are stationed in Nororiente, Ecuador. Gilbert does pioneer evangelistic work, assisting new churches in their development.

He was born in White Bluff, Miss. Prior to appointment as a foreign missionary, he was pastor of a mission near Morgan City, Miss., and of churches in Clara and Quitman, Miss., and in Pushmataha and Lisman, Ala. The Gilberts have three grown children.



Gilbert

Juries Will Determine Obscenity Standards

By Stan Haste

WASHINGTON (BP) — Local juries, not state legislatures, are to determine what constitutes obscenity in federal cases, the U. S. Supreme Court ruled here.

In a 5-4 decision, the high court upheld the conviction of a Des Moines, Iowa, man charged with violating the 1873 Comstock Act, which forbids the use of the U. S. Postal Service to transport obscene materials.

Jerry Lee Smith was convicted of mailing issues of "Intrigue," a hardcore pornographic magazine, and two obscene films to post office box addresses in the Southern Iowa towns of Mount Ayr and Guthrie Center. The materials were unknowingly mailed to postal inspectors who had requested them using fictitious names.

Smith contended at his trial and in his appeal to the Supreme Court that the charges against him should be dismissed because the Iowa legislature in 1974 passed a law removing all restrictions from possession of obscene materials by adults. The law did restrict distribution of such materials to children.

Justice Harry A. Blackmun, who wrote the majority opinion, acknow-

ledged that although Smith had not violated Iowa law, he was still subject to federal prosecution for violation of the federal Comstock Act. The jury, therefore, and not the state legislature, must decide whether the materials sent through the mail were obscene, Blackmun wrote.

In 1973, the Supreme Court ruled that local community standards, rather than a uniform national standard, must be applied in obscenity cases. That decision, announced in Miller v. California, issued three basic guidelines for determining obscenity at the community level:

— "Whether the average person, applying contemporary community standards" would find that the work, taken as a whole, appeals to the prurient interest . . .

— "Whether the work depicts or describes, in a patently offensive way, sexual conduct specifically defined by the applicable state law; and

— "Whether the work, taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value."

Justice Blackmun concluded that a state's "right to abolish all regulation of obscene material does not create a correlative right to force the federal government to allow the mails" to be used for sending obscene materials.

Americans United Decries Tennessee Clergy Ruling

SILVER SPRING, Md. (BP) — An Americans United for Separation of Church and State spokesman declared here that the national religious liberty organization will support Paul McDaniel, a Baptist minister from Chattanooga, Tenn., who was denied a seat in Tennessee's upcoming Constitutional Convention because he is a member of the clergy.

James W. Respass, the organization's general counsel, said Americans United will file an "amicus curiae" ("friend of the court") brief on McDaniel's behalf if the U. S. Supreme Court accepts his application for a stay of a Tennessee Supreme Court ruling, which upheld denial of his seat.

Earlier, the Washington-based Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs took a similar stand, decrying the Tennessee ruling as unconstitutional and authorizing its staff to file an "amicus" brief supporting McDaniel if the high court accepts his case. The Baptist Joint Committee represents nine national Baptist groups in the U.S. and Canada, including the 12.9-million-member Southern Baptist Convention.

Voters elected McDaniel on Nov. 2, 1976, as a delegate to the Constitutional Convention from the 29th legislative district in Tennessee. He was denied the seat because the Tennessee constitution prohibits ministers from serving in either house of the legislature.

Israel Mission Changes Structure

BAPTIST VILLAGE, Israel—The Baptist Convention of Israel (organization of Southern Baptist representatives), meeting in its annual business session here, voted to suspend its constitution adopted in 1965, and to restructure the organization.

The 24 Southern Baptist representatives on the field adopted a statement of purpose and set forth a list of objectives to be incorporated into the new constitution. The document is to be written and submitted for approval within the next two years.

Finlay M. Graham, field representative for the Middle East (liaison between the Foreign Mission Board and representatives on the field), praised the group for its action which will allow movement from a control-oriented structure toward a goal-oriented one.

Future emphasis will be placed on the ministries of various institutions and projects in three geographical areas of the country where Baptist representatives work.

Under the new structure, effective June 1, the office of administrator was created, and Dale G. Thorne of Oklahoma was elected to the post for a three-year term.

Other business at the four-day meeting included a report from Ibrahim Sim'an, Arab Baptist leader from Haifa, on the work Baptists are doing to aid Lebanese refugees at the "Open Fence" on Israel's northern border.

Youth Bible Drill Winners



Mike McCordle (4th year), Mona Gilbert (5th year), Denise Houston (4th year), Paula Harrell (4th year), Debra Henderson (4th year), and Jenny Sumrall (4th year); all from Briarwood Church, Jackson. Not pictured: Janet Moore (6th year), Kay Malony (4th year), Day Warren (4th year), all from Westwood Church, Meridian.

Baptist Sunday School rules require that state Youth Bible Drill representatives at Ridgecrest and Glorieta be no more than 14 years of age. Mississippi is one of the only state conventions extending eligibility for participation in the Youth Bible Drill to older youth. Trophies are awarded to these older youth who participate beyond these first three years. Pictured are the trophy winners for 1977.



Carla Steele (4th year), Patricia Rollins (4th year), Mt. Pleasant Church, Mississippi Association; Debbie Barrett (4th year), North Calvary Church, Philadelphia.



Johnny Jones (5th year), Jamie Hickman (4th year), Renee Fly (4th year), Ray Boxx (4th year), all from First Church, Coffeeville.



Renee Parkes (4th year), Harmony Church, Winston Association; Gale Ray (6th year), First, Aberdeen; William Wilson (4th year), Mt. Pisgah, Eupora.



Beth Davenport (5th year), Susan Whitten (4th year) and Sheila Long (5th year), Calvary Church, Tupelo.



David Blackwell (4th year), Petal-Harvey Church, Petal.



Evelyn Herrington (5th year), Glade Church, Jones Association.



Talitha Edwards (5th year trophy) and Bud Edwards (6th year trophy), First Church, Grenada.

Indiana Baptists Pick Gene Medaris As Editor

INDIANAPOLIS (BP) — Edward Gene Medaris of Fairbanks, Alaska, has been elected editor of the Indiana Baptist, news publication of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana, effective in mid-June.

Medaris, 47, succeeds Alvin C. Shackelford, who resigned after 11 years to become editor of the Baptist and Reflector, Tennessee Baptist news publication, Brentwood, Tenn., Nov. 1, 1976. E. Harmon Moore, executive secretary for Indiana Baptists, has served as interim editor.

He has served as pastor of two churches in Alaska, and of churches in Denison, Texas; Maracaibo, Ven-

ezuela; and Lewiston, Idaho. He and his wife, who have two children, were missionaries in Trinidad, West Indies, for several years.

Dacca, Bangladesh—A joint meeting of the India Baptist Mission and the Bangladesh Baptist Mission (organizations of Southern Baptist missionaries in India and Bangladesh) was to be held here April 20-23. Thirty-two missionaries from the two organizations were to meet in get-acquainted sessions to learn the facets of each mission better. During March, the annual Bangladesh Baptist Union (convention) met for three days at a Mymensingh District church with approximately 100 persons in attendance. The Union is associated with Australian, New Zealand and Southern Baptist work.



Baptist Men Work In Barbados

Four Mississippians active in Baptist Men's Work recently visited Barbados, an island in the West Indies, to help construct a church building. Shown with the Mississippi work crew is Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of the SBC Women's Missionary Union. The four men, all from Grenada, are Lyle Corey, Dewey Sanford, Tom Norwood, and Hiram Davis. The church building is for Emmanuel Baptist Church in Bridgetown, Barbados. Nine Baptist men from the US participated in the project. First Baptist Church of Grenada presented a check for \$500 to the church for its building fund. Pastor of the Barbados church is Vincent Wood. (Photo by Jerry L. Harris, FMB missionary stationed in Barbados)

Newsbriefs In The World Of Religion



Albany, N. Y. (EP) — The Town Assessor of Hardenburgh, N. Y. has agreed to award property tax exemptions to an estimated 85 percent of the 236 community residents who claim to be "ordained" ministers of the Universal Life Church. Officials in the small Catskill Mountain community, including assessor Robert Kerwick, support the tax exemption to create a test case.

Washington, D. C. (RNS) — Bills to prevent child pornography have been introduced in the U. S. Congress and in state legislatures, and investigations are underway in several cities including Chicago. More than 25 per cent of members of the House of Representatives have co-sponsored a "Child Abuse Prevention Act" which calls for up to 20 years' imprisonment and/or a \$50,000 fine for producing pornography involving children or knowingly permitting a child under 16 to be photographed in sexual acts or simulated sexual acts.

Princeton, N. J. (RNS) — A new Gallup survey reveals that 25 per cent of all adults in the U.S. have tried marijuana at least once, but 59 per cent still view "pot" as habit forming and harmful.

San Francisco (EP) — Graciela Olivarez, a member of President Carter's new executive team, says she wants tax relief for parents whose children attend private and church schools. To attain the goal, the Community Services Administration director announced, she is exploring the possibility of a class action suit.

Nashville—Evidences of steady growth in Southern Baptist student work, including 47 new campus programs and 673 campuses with potential student ministries, highlighted the annual survey of state student directors taken by National Student Ministries of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Managua, Nicaragua—Twenty-five persons participated in a workshop on evangelistic communications at Mt. Olive Baptist camp near here recently, led by Southern Baptist Missionary Alan W. Compton, regional mass media representative for Latin America. "Although our primary purpose in Nicaragua as Southern Baptist

missionaries is to promote a literature ministry," said Stanley D. Stamps, Southern Baptist missionary press representative, "there is an open door for the gospel here, and radio and television are effective means for contracting the masses and strengthening the testimony of the churches."

New York (RNS) — An interreligious affairs official of the American Jewish Committee reported here that "more than 1,300 'new-time religions' have appeared in the United States since 1965." Rabbi A. James Rudin, assistant director of the Committee's Department of Interreligious Affairs, said that "many have long since disappeared, and others have merged or been absorbed, but the sheer number of these 'high intensity' cults indicates the theological and spiritual hunger that is present in America today."

New York (RNS) — Church World Service has told the U. S. government that it cannot support any more Haitian refugees.

Sacramento (EP) — Herschel Rosenthal, Democratic assemblyman from Los Angeles, objected when the Rev. Richard Barram departed from "non-denominational prayer" and made reference to Jesus Christ and was later justified in his criticism by Speaker Leo T. McCarthy. "The assembly chaplain is a chaplain of the entire membership and his prayers ought to reflect that," McCarthy said. Rosenthal said if the chaplain continues in such departures he should lose his \$390-a-month post.

Washington, D. C. (RNS) — Amy Carter's nursemaid has become a member of President Jimmy Carter's congregation. With the President attending, Mary Fitzgerald, 33, was baptized at First Baptist Church here on Sunday, May 22. Fitzpatrick was serving a murder sentence when she worked as Amy's nursemaid under a prisoner work-release program while the President was governor of Georgia.

Houston (RNS) — A Baptist mother reportedly hired Ted Patrick in an unsuccessful attempt to "deprogram" her 28-year-old son who joined an Episcopal church here.



Warren Officers Attend Workshop

Approximately 450 associational officers convened recently for the annual associational planning workshop in Jackson, sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Among those attending were officers of Warren Baptist Association. Pictured left to right are: James Messer, pastor of Highland Baptist Church, Vicksburg, Church Training Director; Jasper Collins, pastor of Bovina Baptist Church and Stewardship Chairman; Don Slack, pastor of Grace church, Vicksburg and Sunday School Director; Norman O'Neal, associational Director of Missions; and Charles Funderburk, pastor of Calvary church, Vicksburg and moderator of Warren association.

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State Speakers' Tourney

Five participants competed in the state speakers' tournament recently in Jackson sponsored by the Church Training Department. The tournament is open to older youth members of Church Training groups.

Carl Brewer, Oak Forest Baptist Church, Jackson, was chosen winner of the tournament. He was awarded a trip to Ridgecrest Conference Center to represent Mississippi in the demonstration tournament during

Church Training Leadership Week. Representatives from other state Baptist Conventions will also participate in the event. Ron Braswell of First, Grenada was awarded second place.

The participants pictured above are: No. 1 — Paul May, First, Columbus; No. 2 — June Winstead, Coldwater Church, Winston Association; No. 3 — Brewer; No. 4 — Alice Skelton, Calvary, Greenville; and No. 5 — Braswell.

Campus Ministers Plan To Organize In Kansas City

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP) — The Association of Southern Baptist Campus Ministers will formally organize, adopt a constitution and bylaws, elect officers, and hold its first annual meeting here June 12-13.

The meeting at Midwestern Seminary will precede the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention June 14-16 at H. Roe Bartle Hall in the Kansas City convention center complex.

The organization has been in the process of forming over the past two years and already has 100 dues paying members consisting of campus and state directors of Baptist student ministries and others interested in student work.

The program will begin at 7:30 p.m., Sunday, June 12, and continue on Monday with sessions at 9 a.m., 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

R. Lofton Hudson, a Christian psychologist from Kansas City, will be the main speaker in sessions on Monday morning and afternoon, with presentations designed to help campus ministers know how to deal with marital and family problems of students and how to cope with the effect on students of such phenomena as Transactional Analysis and Transcendental Meditation.

Southern Baptist students ministries are conducted on some 1,071 college and university campuses throughout the nation.

Non-Drinker Gets Distiller's Award

CHARLOTTE, N. C. (RNS) — Bobby Jones, who doesn't drink, was cited by a major distilling company as being "the most consistent and most productive player" in professional basketball. The prize was worth \$10,000 in cash, all of which he has contributed to religious and charitable projects.

Jones, star forward of the National Basketball Association's Denver Nuggets, says "I am definitely against liquor of any kind and I just felt like God gave me this money, not for me to keep, but to use somehow."

"The basic reason," he adds, "is I feel that God gave me my talents and abilities. I felt like I ought to give it back to Him."

"God uses things in many different ways. And this is one of the strangest. I

get money from people who sell whiskey and it goes for something entirely different."

Bobby, 25, distributed his award in this fashion:

—Grants to eight Christian organizations in his home area. He is a native of Charlotte and played at the University of North Carolina. Two of the grants went to Charlotte Baptist churches.

—A grant to a trust fund set up for Athletes in Action, which is affiliated with the Campus Crusade for Christ.

—Aid to Brad Huffman, a college teammate who now plays for Athletes in Action. It will help Huffman pay the heavy medical bills of his wife, who gave birth in February to premature twins, one of whom has since died.



Why Not Have A Day Camp?



What does missions day camping offer? Outdoor missions learning provides an opportunity to learn and try new skills, a time of awareness and appreciation for God's world of nature, an opportunity for good learning experiences, a fostering of dependability and self-reliance, and a time of sharing all of these experiences with friends. Day camping offers fun, adventure, and new experiences. Why not have a GA and/or RA day camp sponsored by your church? The photos above were made during the day camp workshop at Camp Garaywa April 31, sponsored by WMU and Brotherhood, MBCB.

The Missions Task MBC Provides Ways

By John Alexander, Director, Stewardship Department, MBCB

What a tragedy! The headline read, "Southern Baptist church debts top \$1-billion for first time." This headline is unnecessary and unreal. Have you stopped to think how much money given by church members is going down the drain as it is spent for interest on church indebtedness?

If the churches of the SBC are paying an average of eight percent, the interest last year would have amounted to \$80,000,000!!! What a tragedy! This is approximately \$34,000,000 more than Southern Baptist churches gave in 1976 to the Foreign Mission Board for its total world mission operation in 82 countries. With just the money paid out on church debt the convention could almost triple the work of the Foreign Mission Board in one year!

Why this poor management of God's money? Too many church leaders carry their poor personal and family money management practices to church with them. The average American family spends 110 percent of its income weekly and its entire paycheck is gone within 40 hours after it is received.

When thinking about new purchases, most Americans ask only one question: "Can we make the payments?" It doesn't seem to cross their minds either at home or church as to the burdensome cost of deficit financing. Parents and teachers have failed in their responsibility to teach their children how to wisely manage their money.

Churches have to build, as families have to provide items they cannot readily write a check for, but most families and most churches could and should do a better job of financing their endeavors. Most churches can raise in gifts from half to three-fourths of the money they need to build church buildings. Dozens of Mississippi Baptist churches have proved this again and again.

All too many church leaders, in trying to finance church buildings, start by asking, "Who will lend us the money?" instead of realizing that they have right in their own membership a major source for financing any church venture. If the church is going to build, they are going to have to pay for the building. It makes sense to me to pay for the building as economically as possible and that involves a major money-raising plan.

It is much easier to run out and borrow the money than to take the time and make the effort to raise it. But let the leader looking for the easy road realize what it costs to travel it!

Baptists do what they do because of the way they think, and some of us need a serious and radical adjustment in our thinking procedures. Our church leaders need to seriously re-evaluate their own attitudes at this point and to begin a serious effort to help church people not to be caught up in the world's value system.

Paul expressed this thought to the Roman Christians, "And be not fashioned according to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God" (12:2).

It is high time those of us who have leadership positions began to speak out on this terrible problem of church debt. It is even better that every state convention provide its churches ways to raise most of the money for their building needs. Mississippi made this step several years ago and it has proved to be a highly rewarding experience, both for the convention and the churches. Think about it!

WMU

Sponsors Bahama Trip

Mississippi WMU is sponsoring a tour to the North American Baptist Union meeting in Freeport, Grand Bahama Islands. The Oct. 10-16 tour includes a night and day in Nassau and a cruise from Freeport to Miami. All participants will be housed in the Princess Hotels of Freeport. All assembly sessions will be in these hotels.

"Growing in the Love of Christ" is the theme for this sixth continental as-

sembly. The program will include well known women speakers and singers, small group discussions and prayer, buffet meals together and time for sightseeing and shopping.

A deposit of \$50 is required with registration and participants are encouraged to register by July 10. Women interested should write or call Woman's Missionary Union, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, Mississippi, 39205, for detailed information.



Central Hills Development

W. Levon Moore, director of association missions for Atlanta Country Baptist Association and chairman of the committee for the development of Central Hills Baptist Retreat, points out areas designated for development at the retreat. He was conducting a tour of a group of association directors of missions and their wives. At left is Paul Harrell, director of the Brotherhood Department for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Actual work on roads for the area was expected to get under way this week.

Brotherhood

Royal Ambassador Camps Offered In July, August

Six weeks of Royal Ambassador Camps at Sardis Lake 4-H Club Camp, Batesville, begin with the week of July 4, and end with the week of August 8.

The six camp weeks are open to boys 9-17 years of age. Two age groupings, corresponding to Royal Ambassador programs will separate the boys into 9-11 years, and 12-17 years groupings.

The camp weeks are: July 4-8; July 11-15; July 18-22; July 25-29; Aug. 1-5; and Aug. 8-12. Total cost for the entire week is \$30, including registration fee, room and board, insurance, and program materials. A fee of \$5 must accompany the preregistration for each boy.

The camping program, sponsored by the Mississippi Brotherhood Department, provides for participation in crafts, hikes, nature study, archery, swimming, boating, mission study and worship experiences.

A staff composed of pastors, educational directors, laymen and college students will be guiding the boys. Local church counselors are not to stay with the boys on the camp grounds unless previous arrangements have been made with Paul Harrell, Brotherhood director.

Each camper should bring linens (sheets, light blanket), pillow and pil-

lowcase, towels, washcloth, clothes for camp, Bible, and personal effects such as soap, toothpaste. Campers may bring spending money for snacks,

caps, and gift items.

For more information, write Paul Harrell, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205.

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'A Disturbing Silence' Wins U. S. Film Award

CHICAGO (BP) — "A Disturbing Silence," a 28-minute color documentary film on lifestyle evangelism, produced by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in Atlanta, won a Silver Screen Award at the U. S. Industrial Film Festival here.

More than 750 films from 14 nations were entered.

"A Disturbing Silence" received the Silver Screen Award — equivalent to second place — in the religion category. More than 200 judges viewed the entries.

The film was produced by Jay Durham, director of audiovisuals for the Home Mission Board. Larry God-

dard, director of audiovisual production services, wrote and directed the film; Don Rutledge, director of photo journalism services, photographed it; and Clark Hill, audiovisual production assistant, served as sound man.

Funded by the board's department of personal evangelism, headed by Robert Saul, the film was designed to inspire and motivate Christians to share their faith on a daily basis in "the traffic pattern of their lives." It tells the story of seven persons who learned to break the "Disturbing Silence" in our churches — a silence about the good news of Jesus Christ.

A Man Who Started Something

By Phyllis Desbien

"The institution started with one chair, one desk, and one typewriter in someone else's room."

This statement from a February 21, 1959 article in Kansas' BAPTIST DIGEST, describes the beginning of Midwestern Seminary. This is what Millard Berquist faced when he left a large church in Tampa, Florida, after 10 years as pastor, and came to Kansas City as president of Southern Baptists' sixth seminary.

Leaving Tampa's First Baptist Church was not easy. He and Gladys, his wife, dearly loved the church and its people. They were proud that it had led the state in Cooperative Program giving, that it was so active in community and denominational involvement.

"Besides," says Berquist, "I've always loved the pastorate, always been happy in the pastorate."

Sure, he's been active in both state and national Southern Baptist activities. He'd served as president of the Florida Baptist Convention, had been on the board of trustees of Southern Seminary for 11 years. He was even a



Dr. and Mrs. Millard-Berquist review photographic memories at their home in Mission, Kansas. (Photo by Bob Desbien, Midwestern Seminary)

native of Kansas City, and been an honor student at William Jewell College there.

But leave the pastorate?

Mrs. Berquist describes her husband's struggle. "I began to sense there was a battle going on. I never told him what to do. I was afraid I'd interfere with what the Lord wanted him to do."

After much soul searching and prayer, the decision was made. In December, 1957, the couple moved from the Florida warmth into one of the coldest Missouri winters on record!

Millard Berquist took responsibility for a school which existed on paper alone, except for a chair, a desk and a typewriter, set up in a rented section of Calvary Baptist Church, downtown Kansas City.

Although classes would not begin until Fall, 1958, Berquist began his work of corresponding, purchasing and planning for the new school.

"It would be difficult to convey the exciting experience it is to start something," He still glows with excitement just thinking about it.

He enlisted his first two faculty members, Lavell Seats and Bill Morton. He began talking with other top-



The group of association directors of missions and their wives pay to admire the beauty of the 19-acre lake at Central Hills Baptist Retreat during a tour of the 360-acre area.

Northeast Deacon-Pastor Retreat



A group of pastors and deacons visit before the beginning of activities at the Northeast Deacon-Pastor Retreat at Tishomingo State Park. The retreat involved itawamba, Lee, Prentiss, Alcorn, Tishomingo, and Union associations. Program personalities included W. C. Gann, Alcorn and Tishomingo associations; Earl Kelly; Maurice Flowers, Jones Association; Carl Nelson, Pelahatchie Baptist Church; Finley Evans, Grenada and Yalobusha association; Talmadge Littlejohn, New Albany deacon; Bob Hamblin, Mississippi Baptist Convention president; and Leon Emery, church administration director who was in charge of the retreat.



In a picturebook setting the pastor of East Corinth Baptist Church in Corinth, Dual Corbitt, right, and two of the deacons of the church visit with Earl Kelly, left, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board at Tishomingo State Park. The two deacons are, second from left, James Suggs and Harris Counce. They were attending the Northeast Deacon-Pastor Retreat at the park.

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

The Battle Begins At Home

Violence and other unnecessary realism on television screens continue to be subjects of discussion by many groups across the nation, both religious and otherwise. The national organization of the Parent-Teacher Association has been among those expressing concern. As has been stated before, the Mississippi Baptist Convention last fall took a stand in opposition to such needless programming.

Included in the convention's statement was a request to the state Legislature to give law enforcement officials the power to deal with pornography of all types, such as movies and magazines, but this request went unheeded. It would seem to be incumbent upon the Baptist people of this state to see that another year does not pass without legislative action in this area, but this is another matter.

Those who provide network television programming seem to continue to probe for the outer limits which they will be allowed in the way of realism. The question remains — how does a suffering public get the message across that it is fed up with a great deal of what is piped out of network studios.

Again, the area of awareness continues to be the dollar. Our society, to a great extent, has built a financial system under which the final recipient of the dollar does not have to answer for the shortcomings of his product. One might not pay cash for a product so that he would have recourse in case of its being inferior. Yet in many cases he borrows the money from someone other than the producer in order to buy the merchandise. Thus his recourse is nullified.

So it is to an extent with network television programming. The objec-

tionable shows are not nearly all produced by the networks. Many of them are independently done.

It has been stated before that television is a monster. Keeping three major networks and many independent outlets supplied with enough material to fill the air time requires an enormous amount of programming. Some of it is good. Some of it is bad.

The local stations must receive network material. The networks must rely on independently produced material. They have to have it to attract advertisers, who provide the money necessary to keep going and provide a profit.

The advertisers don't do the programming. They depend on the stations and the networks to provide vehicles for advertising their merchandise.

So to a great extent the firm at the final stopping place of the dollar is an independent operation with no controls other than what it can't sell.

Not long ago a little publicized but meaningful gathering of broadcast people and Mississippi pastors was held in the Baptist Building. The broadcasters, also all Mississippians, had a great deal of insight which they presented to the group.

They pointed out that the entity most likely to get hurt in any power squeeze is the local station. This is the only point along the line where controls are applied. The Federal Communications Commission has no control over the networks; and, of course, it has no control over independent producers. Thus, when angry viewers begin to talk about having licenses revoked, they are talking about putting the local station out of business. Yet it is seldom if ever that a local station initiates

anything that the viewers would object to. The FCC grants the local stations their licenses to operate, and the FCC has the power to revoke them. But the FCC has no power over the networks, from whence come the problem productions. The local stations have to have the networks however, as a source of a large amount of their advertising.

But, the broadcasters tell us, the networks also have to have the local stations, or they have no market for their products. Therefore, the broadcasters continue, they can be very helpful in the quest to upgrade network programming; but they must have specific instances of complaint if they are to make any headway. They say the local broadcasters are continually in touch with network program people with reports on acceptance. Their point is that if the local citizens will get in touch with the local stations with specific complaints, those complaints will most surely reach the network level where they will do the most good.

The complaints have to be specific and they have to be numerous.

Don't try to have the local station's license revoked unless it has done something that would warrant such action. When you see something you don't like, however, don't hesitate to call the local station. If you have specific information, they promise action.

If not many people call, they will assume that most viewers like what they are seeing. This gets it back around to the dollar again. The networks are going to show what people watch, because that is what the advertisers will pay for.

whom are still living. One, Dr. L. E. Green, made the trip to the coast even more delightful by providing a fishing trip on the gulf on Saturday.

Pastor McMurray has been the leader of this flock since 1961. Included on the staff are Bob Gray, the minister of education; and Marc Beaver, the minister of music.

Helping make that particular week end a real treat was a trip to Tishomingo State Park on Friday for the North East Deacon-Pastor retreat. This is a beautiful area which has to be seen before one can believe its beauty. It is scenery reminiscent of the beauties of the Sierra Nevada mountains in California. Hills in this area don't rise over 800 feet above sea level, and the Sierras tower above 10,000 feet; but this is every bit as beautiful.

It was a nice weekend of feasting on the loveliness of Mississippi. And the greatest asset are its people.—DTM.

Letters To The Editor

Disturbance Over Movies

Dear Sir:

Recently our community has become very disturbed over the production of two blasphemous movies, "The Passover Plot" and the "Many Faces of Jesus" — one, we understand, has already been made, the other to begin filming in the near future.

On Sunday, May 1, the Ladies' Sunday School Class of the Isola Church made a resolution which declared, in effect, that: 1) Each member would pray that these movies would not be successful; 2) No member would spend any money to see these films and each would discourage all persons with whom they come in contact from seeing them, even out of curiosity; 3) That this class would ask the church to make a substantial donation to the "Interfaith Committee Against Blasphemy" for helping finance publicity against these movies and any other blasphemous program that might originate in the future.

This resolution was read before the church at the morning worship hour. At that time, the class also expressed their intention of sending a donation of their own and challenged other classes to do the same. The church voted to make the contribution and the checks have been mailed.

The purpose of this letter is to urge all Christians to join with us — God has richly blessed us — we can do no less than publicly proclaim our faith in Jesus and strongly urge each reader to do the same.

Mrs. Charles B. Crawford, Jr.
Isola, MS.

Ordained Women

Dear Sir:

I am shocked by the fact that more than 20 women have been ordained in Southern Baptist churches, and am disappointed by the fact that financial support is given to one of these ordained women from our Easter Mission Offering. I don't feel that I can ask my congregation to support this offering again. May I say to Dr. Tanner and Redford that we must look beyond local autonomy for administration directions; we look to God's Word. The

Book Reviews

GOD'S KEY TO HEALTH AND HAPPINESS by Elmer A. Josephson (Fleming H. Revell Company, 224 pp., \$3.95)

This fascinating book is based on Biblical dietary laws. It can be a life-changing guide to good health. It is a study on nutrition telling us what foods are dangerous to man's system (the list will astound you) and reveals how to correctly prepare the foods that are good and healthful to eat. Learn how food properly prepared will bring you a new life, filled with glowing good health. Every man, woman, and child who wants to live a healthier, happier life should read this book.

HOW TO LIVE WITH A PREGNANT WIFE by Janet Patterson & R. C. Patterson Jr., M.D. (Thomas Nelson Publishers, Nashville, TN.; \$3.95; 163 pages).

This book explores in detail the physical, mental, and emotional changes to expect each month along the way of pregnancy. It is a guide for husbands, to make this trying time easier for both. Complete with a glossary of unfamiliar terms. A great gift for the father-to-be.

First, Pascagoula's 100th Anniversary



Clark McMurray, center, pastor of First Baptist Church, Pascagoula, discusses aspects of the church's 100th anniversary observation with Earl Kelly, left, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, and Pat Watts, right, chairman of the Historical Committee. Kelly spoke at the morning service of the anniversary Sunday.



The pastor, in full centennial regalia, participates in a log-sawing contest. (Photo by Gary Holland)



Southern Baptist Convention needs to take a position on the ordination of women at the earliest possible date.

W. T. Miller
Gulfport

Doubtless many share your opinion, and the matter may indeed come before the Southern Baptist Convention. In defense of the Home Mission Board, however, the fact seems to be that this particular woman was appointed a missionary many months before she was ordained. — Editor

Should Not Deprive EBC

Dear Sir:

The editorial "The Canadian Matter" stated that you believed the SBC should be limited to the central states of America and its territories. I believe this is unfair to the members of The European Baptist Convention (English language). Over 99% of the members are Americans temporarily living overseas in Europe. With the exception of the four EBC churches in Great Britain none of the EBC churches are in English speaking nations. All SBC programs and materials are used in the EBC churches. Last year the EBC churches gave to the Lottie Moon, Annie Armstrong offering and so on. Also all EBC pastors

come from SBC churches in the USA and are graduates of SBC seminaries.

When the pastors come over to Europe they are not listed in the SBC pastors listing. This means that they have difficulty getting a new SBC church because they are not listed in the pastors directory. Also they have difficulty participating in the SBC pastor's programs. Currently to get US tax deductions EBC churches have to send contributions to the foreign mission board SBC. If the EBC churches were members of the SBC then their members could get US tax deductions without having to do a legal dance.

I do not believe that members of EBC churches should be deprived of SBC membership because of geographical location. The SBC supported a bill for voting rights for Americans overseas so it only seems logical to extend SBC membership to Southern Baptist oriented churches overseas. The SBC should support the EBC churches request to join the SBC otherwise American citizens who are Southern Baptist will be denied SBC membership just because their churches are located outside the boundaries of the US and its territories. I believe it would be a great injustice to deny EBC churches SBC membership just because of our location.

Joe Eckman

Bolivar Office Dedicated



Though in use since December, the Bolivar Baptist Association office was dedicated to the Lord's service on May 22. The 1,200 square foot building in Cleveland replaces a one-room building which the association operated out of for 12 years.

Missions Director Odis Henderson said the center will serve as his office, a meeting place for associational committees, and an associational library, and will house the initial stages of a counseling ministry.

The 25-church association sponsors one mission, works in a county jail

ministry, a youth and family counseling ministry, and a weekly ministry at a nursing home. Henderson ministers to non-resident patients at the long term care unit of the county hospital.

Officiating at the dedication ceremony on the front porch of the building were (left to right): Cleveland Mayor Martin King; James Hurt, pastor of Immanuel church; Wayne Gullett, pastor of Morrison Chapel church; George F. "Gerald" Powell, layman and associational moderator; Gerald Aultman, pastor of Calvary church; Odis Henderson; and Bobby Walton, pastor of Yale St. church.

Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

Since I first read *The Hiding Place* I have read everything I could find by or about Corrie ten Boom. When Corrie came to Jackson I went to the Coliseum to hear her speak, and I have listened to her when she spoke on Billy Graham telecasts.

When the cast of the movie, "The Hiding Place," was announced we printed in the Baptist Record a feature story about Jeanette Clift George from Houston, Texas, the actress who had been chosen to play the part of Corrie. Later I saw the movie.

In mid-May when I heard that Jeanette Clift George was to be the guest speaker for the Christian Women's Club in a luncheon meeting at the Jackson Country Club I decided that I would go.

For those who are growing older — and who isn't? — she had an encouraging word: "In the plan of God, that which is coming is better than that which was before. We should not wish

to go back to our teen years, or to be younger, because as we grow and mature as Christians, each day should be better than the day before."

"Faith is a gift of God," she said, "and is not produced by human works. However, it is like a muscle that needs to be exercised. Then as we exercise our faith we grow as Christians."

She kept her audience laughing. And every time she told something funny she would laugh, too, with a rich booming chuckle that would tickle your funny bone. Her yellow dress made a pleasing contrast to her black hair and her large expressive eyes glowed as she talked about joy: "There are two categories of people, believers and unbelievers. If you are a believer and not rejoicing, then it must be that you temporarily have broken your fellowship with Him. He has joy for believers who are in fellowship with Him. Depression isolates us from others. But when we have joy we want to share it with others."

The actress said, "Your conversion experience does not have to be a dramatic one in order to be real." She recalled that she grew up in a Christian home. When she first went to New York to begin her career in the theater, she was already a Christian. She took her Bible with her, but liked to keep it nice, wrapped in cellophane. At that time, she said, all the professionals in the New York theater who were Christians could have met in a phone booth! Though they were few, they did sometimes have fellowship meetings.

Then Billy Graham held his first crusade in New York and the number of Christians in the professional theater increased considerably. After that, when they would meet together, some of them would give very dramatic testimonies.

Jeanette said, "When I was asked to give my testimony, I realized that it did not sound like much, in comparison with theirs." But she knew she was a Christian. She began reading her Bible

more regularly, and she found new assurance that salvation does not depend on your feelings, but on God's promise to save those who repent and believe.

She quoted from Psalm 51: "Lord, open thou my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth thy praise." But she warned, "Don't be a hypocrite. Don't praise God if you cannot praise him with sincerity."

Surely one of the wisest and most powerfully expressive Bible teachers anywhere is Dr. Jack MacGorman, professor of New Testament at Southwestern Seminary. Author of this year's Bible study book on Romans, he taught the book at Morrison Heights Church last week.

Twenty-four or 25 years ago I was in one of his classes at Southwestern. Since I could not pass his true-false tests, I wrote an 80-page term paper just to be sure that the paper grade would overbalance the test grades. I won't forget his tests, but neither will I forget him as a teacher and as a person. In my list of great men, he is very near the top.

Sunday morning he preached on Romans 8:28. He said, "If we trust Him, He is able to take all the tears and the laughter alike and use them to make us conform to the image of Jesus."

On The Moral Scene

THE U.S. NAVY AND ITS ALLIES — have three times the tonnage of the Soviet Navy and its allies, according to newly released Pentagon studies. The U.S. team has twice the number of ships of 1,000 tons or more. Source: Rep. Les Aspin (D-Wis.), a member of the House Armed Services Committee. (The Washington Spectator 4-15-77)

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Upon This Rock



W. Jackson Street Meets Goals

In a recent BUILDING FUND CAMPAIGN the WEST JACKSON STREET CHURCH in Tupelo set goals of \$125,000, \$190,000 and \$250,000.

The pastor, Richard Clement, above, reports that the total pledges reached \$230,000. He states that during the first month of the pledges the church received \$18,000 in its regular offering and \$15,000 in its building fund, surpassing by far all previous offerings made in one month.

He further states, "There was such a wonderful spirit of cooperation and revival that you would not have believed that we were in a fund raising campaign."

Clarence H. Cutrell was the consultant. This is a Cooperative Program ministry.

Ridgecrest To Host

1977 Church Rec Week

RIDGECREST, N. C. — Approximately 40 special interest conferences, designed to increase the effectiveness of Christian recreation leaders in local churches, will be offered during this summer's Church Recreation Conference at Ridgecrest Conference Center.

Sponsored by the Sunday School Board's church recreation department, Church Recreation Week is scheduled June 4-10, and begins the 1977 summer season at Ridgecrest. No Church Recreation Conference is scheduled for Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Center this year.

Adults may choose from such conferences as basic and advanced crafts, stichery, puppet construction, family recreation and recreation for senior adults. Youth topics include creative Bible study, improvisations and dramatic games, table games and campcraft skills.

Separate Bible study and conference schedules will be observed by youth and adults each morning, but afternoon recreation and evening worship services will be held jointly.

Special features for youth will be daily "Spectaculars," presented to involve young persons in creative worship through such recreational tools as

puppetry and drama. Also, the youth choir of Broadmoor Baptist Church, Shreveport, La., will assist with the week's music program, including a special presentation of the musical "Celebrate Life!"

Program personalities for the week include Wallace Henley, pastor of Old Spanish Fort Baptist Church, Spanish Fort, Ala., worship leader; Bill Anderson, editor in the Sunday School Board's church music department, music leader; and Paul Powell, pastor of Green Acres Baptist Church, Tyler, Tex., adult and youth Bible study leader.

Provisions will be made for children who attend the conference with their parents. Children who have completed the first grade but have not entered the seventh grade will be enrolled in Day Camp. Younger children will be cared for in the Preschool Building.

Reservations for the Church Recreation Conference, which begins with the evening meal on Saturday and concludes the following Friday at noon, may be made by writing Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Box 128, Ridgecrest, N. C. 28770. A \$15 conference services fee should accompany each request.

Church Calls

(Continued from page 1)

God and that she is professionally trained and competent.

"It's very unusual for a church to call members as pastors," he continued, "so they know what they are getting and we know what we are getting."

Sylvester, a native of Alabama, is currently working on his Ph.D. in church history at Southern Seminary. He earned a master of divinity degree at the school in 1974. A graduate of Samford University, Birmingham, he served two years on the staff of Hong Kong Baptist College and as pastor of an English-speaking Baptist church there.

Johnson, a native of Roanoke, Va., is a graduate of Taylor University, Upland, Ind., and recently earned the master of divinity degree from Southern Seminary. Her experience includes a counseling ministry in New York and serving as minister of music for Oak Park Baptist Church, Jeffersonville, Ind.

Twenty-third and Broadway Church is affiliated with the Long Run Baptist Association, the Kentucky Baptist Convention (Southern), the General Association of Baptists in Kentucky (black), and the Southern Baptist Convention.

Kansas City, Mo. (BP) — Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., will preach at the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference here June 13 in place of R. G. Lee, who is recovering from a series of heart attacks.

"A dog wags its tail with its heart." — FRANK A. DICKSON.



A Woman's World Reaches For
**Beyond the
Ironing Board**
—Betsy Fancher

While I am writing this for publication for June 2, Martha Nelson and I are cramming our clothes into suitcases to fly off to California to meet with one of the sweetest sororities I know anything about. In a camp in a forest of redwoods near San Francisco there will be a gathering of wives of California Baptist pastors. When Robert Hughes, California's Executive Secretary, called to ask if I could come, he said they would "let" me come since I had been a pastor's wife for such a long time.

My earliest remembrances of church include lovely ladies who graced the responsibilities involved in being a pastor's wife. I loved Mrs. Stewart at Houston, Mrs. Flowers at Winona, and Mrs. Day at Louisville during my pre-college years. These were so meaningful to me that I decided, while I was a very young girl, that I would like to be a pastor's wife. Being a pastor's wife was as joyful as I anticipated that it would be. So I look forward to being an honorary pastor's wife for a few days.

But the point of this column is not simply to tell you about this happy experience, but call to your mind a special person in your church — the wife of your pastor. She has a unique work to do, just as the pastor has a unique work to do. She is a very human person, just as the pastor is very human. Together they help more people trudge through valleys and climb over mountaintops than anyone else in town. Together they sit with more people on plateaus of development or achievement than anyone else in town. Together they help more people decide the better road to take than anyone else in town.

There really is no way we can express our love sufficiently to them. But I do know that any man worth his salt, and practically all pastors are, feels a real sense of delight when appreciation is expressed to his wife.

How long has it been since you did something nice for your pastor's wife? Join me in making this a Be Kind To Your Pastor's Wife Week. My pastor's wife is one of the most special people in the world, and one of these days I'm going to tell you about her.

But for right now, I'm going to buy her a gift — and you may be sure it will be something I'd like to have for myself!

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Introduced by Glendon McCullough (left), executive director of the Brotherhood Commission, agency trustee chairman Bill Hardy of Columbus, Miss., shakes hands with President Jimmy Carter during the annual meeting of the Commission in Washington. (Photo by Tim Fields)

Laymen Challenged

(Continued from page 1)

names of thousands of lay volunteers for missions.

In business sessions, the trustees approved a 1977-78 operating budget of \$2,027,280, an increase of 23 percent.

The trustees also:

—Okayed a 10-point capital needs program calling for a training center, missions media center, and improved conference facilities.

—Agreed to sponsor a national Royal Ambassador Congress for boys 12-17 in Nashville, Tenn., during the summer of 1979.

—Agreed to develop a campcraft training program for leaders of Royal Ambassadors in churches and associations.

—Approved a proposal to sponsor a national meeting on missions and ministry in Atlanta the day following the SBC there in 1978 and to invite a nationally known Baptist to headline

the program.

—Okayed a plan to participate in a skills bank service with three other Southern Baptist agencies.

—Agreed to meet November 8-11, 1977 in Memphis.

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Two Get Degrees At Southeastern

WAKE FOREST, N. C. — Two Mississippi Baptists received degrees in commencement ceremonies at Southeastern Seminary here.



The graduating class of 1975 was the largest in the school's 26-year history. The commencement sermon was delivered by President W. Randall Lolley.

Mississippians receiving degrees were Shelby Lynn Stephens, pictured,

Oakvale, Master of Divinity, and John Thomas Treadwell, Wiggins, not pictured, Master of Divinity.

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Names In The News



William Carey College vice-president for student affairs, Jerry Oswalt, was honored by having the 1977 Crusader yearbook dedicated to him. Shown making the presentation following the announcement is Crusader editor Joanne Myrick. Oswalt is also a member of the religion faculty.

Oliver L. Martin of Picayune was one of five students honored by New Orleans Seminary



at graduation time, May 14, for their "excellence in scholarship, occupational promise and character." These five, who received their Master's degrees, were selected by the faculty of their major division of study. Each honoree received a plaque from the seminary, as well as a multi-volume set of book dealing with his area of study. Martin, a William Carey graduate, was nominated by the Division of Religious Education Ministries. He is minister of music at Roseland Park Church, Picayune. Ronald Meyer of Mobile, another of the five honorees, received his B. S. degree from University of Southern Mississippi in 1962. He is now pastor at Port Sulphur, La.

Mr. and Mrs. James R. Barron, missionaries to Ghana, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: P. O. Box 400, Accra, Ghana). He was born in Huntsville, Ala., and grew up near Clarksville, Miss.

Doug Hutchin has been called as pastor of Corinth (Kemper). He and his family will live in a mobile home on the church grounds. Bill Harwell retired from Corinth after many years of service as pastor.

Alton Byrd has been the new pastor of Spring Creek (Neshoba) since March 1 and already there have been 19 additions to the church. Also the Sunday School attendance was over 100 for all of April.

On May 6, William M. Waddle received the Doctor of Ministry degree from Luther Rice Seminary, Jacksonville, Florida.

Waddle has been pastor of Pleasant Hill Church, Union County, for the past three years. During these three years the church has experienced a steady growth, (the entire building has been renovated and an educational building of 1560 square feet has been built.) The income of the church has more than doubled.

On May 8, Michael Donald Johnson was ordained by the Calvary Church, Booneville. Mike is

the pastor of East Marietta Church at Marietta. He is a graduate of the University of Mississippi and is married to the former Cathy Crabb of Booneville.

They have a son, Charles (Chip) Johnson, who is three weeks old.

Ron Crooker of Biloxi was named recipient of the first annual administrative dean's Award for achievement and service as a student at William Carey College on the Coast. Presented during annual Honor's Day ceremonies at the parent campus in Hattiesburg on Tuesday, May 10, the award was in recognition of outstanding students leadership on the part of Crooker, a 22-year Air Force serviceman, recently retired.



William Carey College Student Government has elected Mike Gentry, right, as president for next year. Joseph Jones, left, was named vice-president. Mike, a church music major from Macon, Georgia, is a member of the First Church of Hattiesburg. Joey is a pre-med student from Clara, Ms.

LET THE CHURCH REACH OUT



Do you find some churches that are pitifully small? Drawn up into their own self-imposed shells, they think only of themselves.

Their smallness is not in buildings, budgets, or membership, but in their attitudes. They have no scriptural grounds for asking or expecting from God's bountiful hands those blessings promised his faithful and obedient children and churches. While the world dies without hope, they gather as did the people of Jeremiah's day, to fail to hear or obey the voice of God. Their memberships are diminishing, their budgets are dwindling, and their influence is fading away.

The theme: **LET THE CHURCH REACH OUT** is a call to every church to reevaluate, revitalize, and renew a commitment to greatness at a time when together our churches through cooperation and endeavoring literally to "reach for the moon" — every person alive in our world in our lifetime!

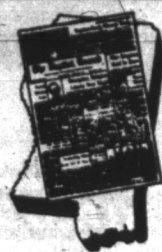
God will bless you beyond your ability to measure if you will enroll in the magnificent move to **LET THE CHURCH REACH OUT.**

EVERY CHURCH!! EVERY CHURCH!!! YOUR CHURCH???

Whether you are in the country or in the city do you sometimes feel that in your church work you are caught in the grip of a vise? Unable to break out? Unable to establish and reach goals? Spinning your wheels?

Regardless of where your church is located or what may be its size, it can break out and increasingly become a part of our Lord's mission to the whole world. You may have only one small pail of water but if you contribute it to the Gulf of Mexico, it becomes a part of the Atlantic Ocean touching many continents, supporting many ships, feeding many millions who extract seafood from its waters.

God planted us and our churches, hopefully, to minister where we are. He also commanded that we become a part of his world-wide ministry. He made the world, the whole world. Christ died for the world, the whole world. God's people today are feeling and following his leadership in attempting seriously to share his word with the whole world.



Just For The Record



Dedication Service for the new pastorium of FIRST CHURCH, POTTS CAMP was held Sunday, May 15, following the morning worship service. Dallas King led in the prayer dedicating the house to the work of the Lord. A. K. Cooper, pastor, receives the key from William Minor, Chairman of the Building Committee as other members of the Building and Study Committees look on. From left: Cooper, Ronnie Husepeth, Len Marbury, Mrs. Robert Alvis, Minor, and Marshall Clifton, Chairman of the Study Committee.

Memorial Homecoming will be held on June 5 at Mt. Zion Church (Lincoln). Sunday School begins at 10 a.m. and morning worship service at 11. Lunch will be served at the noon hour and the cemetery committee will be in charge of the afternoon service. Dick Hill is pastor.

Osyka Church has organized Ac-teens, G.A., R.A. and Mission Friends. This is the first time these programs have been attempted. The average attendance has been 60. Drew D. Blanton is pastor.

Standing Pine Dedicates Pastorium



Standing Pine Church, Walnut Grove, recently dedicated a new pastorium, erected two years ago and paid for in two years. W. C. Smith, director of missions, Leake Association, was present for the dedication. Pastor Mike Brown and his wife, Debbie, at left, have been serving on the field since March 2, 1975. They are both natives of Memphis.

West Laurel Church, Laurel will be observing Homecoming on June 5 with an old-fashioned dinner hour in the Family Life Center following the morning worship service. A Saturday night fellowship is being planned. Troy Prince, a former member, will be the guest speaker and is presently serving the Alaska Convention. Full-time evangelistic singer, Leon Westerhouse, from Birmingham, Ala. will sing and present a concert on that Sunday night. D. J. Benson, pastor.

Crooked Creek Church, Silver Creek will celebrate 118th Anniversary Homecoming on May 29. Sunday School at 10 a.m. Morning worship at 11 directed by Parkes Marler, a former pastor and a missionary on leave from Guam. Dinner in Fellowship Building following immediately. Special music service 2 p.m. Brief messages by former pastors and pastors ordained from the church. Tithes and offering applied to bldg. fund.



Saltillo Church observed Miracle Day, April 24. Total of 434 people were registered for Sunday School which was 100 over the previous record. The offering for Miracle Day was \$5,236.85. Pictured are Jeff Land, Sunday School director, and Rex Yancey, pastor.

Homecoming Day will be observed June 5 at Indian Springs Church (Perry). Everyone is invited to come and bring a lunch. The Bible Tones will take charge in the afternoon. B. A. Conway is pastor.

Cloverdale Church, Natchez, will celebrate its 25th Anniversary Homecoming on June 5. Services start at 11 a.m. following with dinner on the ground. Former pastors, including James Messer, Highland Church, Vicksburg, will speak at the 2:30 service. John Farris is pastor.

Revival Dates

Strong Hope Church (Cotah): June 9-10; Don Nerren, pastor, Macedonia Church (Lincoln), evangelist; Mrs. Bobby Reid, music; Sunday services 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. with dinner on the ground; weekday services 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Robert Smith, pastor.

Piave Church (Greene): June 12-17; Troy Smith, East Salem Church, Leakesville, evangelist; services 7:30 p.m. nightly; Delton Beall, pastor.

Mission Hill (Lincoln): June 12-17; services Sunday at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. with no night services; Mon.-Fri. at 8 p.m.; R. F. Moore, West Salem (Greene), speaker, W. E. Derrick, pastor.

Grace Mission Celebrates Its Third Month

Grace Mission, formed on Feb. 20, celebrates its third month of organization. Mac Parker of Laurel is pastor.

Worship services have been conducted in a large metal building on highway 84, eight miles east of Laurel. The mission has purchased five acres of land, also on 84 east, as a site for the construction of a church. Plans are being made to start the building program within 30 days.

Though there is no sponsorship from a mother church, Grace Mission has participated in giving to missions through the cooperative program.

Sunday School material for the first quarter and 25 hymnals were donated by the Jones Assoc. Additional hymnals and a piano were given to the mission through other sources. Purchased at a nominal fee were 26 pews.

Worship service each Sunday morning has an average attendance of 40 persons. In addition to regular worship services and W.M.U., the mission has scheduled Vacation Bible School the first full week of June.

Correction

Highland Church, Vicksburg's youth choir was pictured on page 5 of the July 26 issue of the Baptist Record. The name of the church was accidentally omitted from the cutlines.

Yearly production of 15 to 20 television network specials—produced by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission in cooperation with ABC, CBS and NBC—has grown into another great ministry for Baptists. Audiences for these Southern Baptist network programs range from five to ten million viewers each.

Devotional

The Cross As Revelation

By Eugene H. Dobbs, Pastor, First, Philadelphia
Romans 5:8

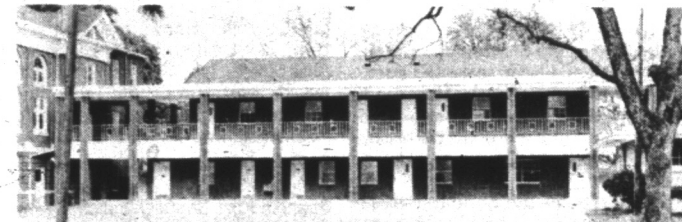
The philosopher John Stuart is quoted as having said, "The world needs to be reminded that there once walked in her midst a man named Socrates." It is the conviction of my life that the world needs to be told again and again that there once walked in her midst a man whose name was Jesus of Nazareth, and that He was crucified on a Roman cross for our sins. The New Testament never says that Christ lived for us, thirsted for us, was tempted for us, or became weary for us, as true as all of this is. What it says; and says repeatedly, is that Christ died for us. More precisely, it says that He died for our sins.

THE CROSS REVEALS GOD. History, both Biblical and secular, records man's desire and attempts to know God. The life and death of Jesus Christ formed the supreme revelation of God. He does not so much make a revelation of God, as Himself is the revelation of God. He does not merely disclose God's purpose of redemption, He is that righteousness and redemption. He does not simply point the way to God, He is that way. He not only speaks of eternal life, He is that life. In the Cross of Jesus there is the revelation of many things concerning the nature of man and of God.

The sinfulness of man is manifested in the death of Christ. "For he hath made him to be sin for us, we knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him" (II Cor. 5:21). He bore our sins in his own body on the tree.

THE CROSS REVEALS THE LOVE OF GOD. Perhaps the area in which the cross of Christ gives us the greatest (clearest) revelation of God is that of His matchless love. "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Rom. 5:8). The love of God spoken of in John 3:16 was brought to fruition in the death of Jesus. His death came not as the result of a fixed fate from which He could not escape, but rather as a result of God's everlasting love.

Lyon Dedicates Annex



Lyon Church dedicated a new annex April 24. Theo Wright, pastor of Main Street Church, Mendenhall, one of the preachers ordained by Lyon Church, preached the dedication sermon. The building contains three classrooms for children, the church office suite, and the library conference room. The total cost of construction and furnishings was \$149,300 and the building was dedicated debt free. J. W. McCleskey, Jr. of Hattiesburg was the architect. Paul Harwood is pastor.

President Invites Seven

President Jimmy Carter has invited seven Southern Baptist leaders, one from Miss., to lunch on June 7 at the White House to discuss the denomination's mission program for young adults. The invitation came out of a discussion of Southern Baptist mission work for young adults between President Carter and his Sunday School teacher.

Invited are Porter Routh, executive secretary, Executive Committee, SBC; Mrs. A. Harrison Gregory, president of WMU, SBC; Glendon McCul-

lough, executive director, Brotherhood Commission, SBC; William Tanner, executive director, Home Mission Board; Baker J. Cauthen, executive secretary, Foreign Mission Board; Grady Cothen, president of the Baptist Sunday School Board; and Owen Cooper of Yazoo City, Miss., former SBC president.

Fred Gregg, teacher of the president's Sunday School class at First Church, Washington, D. C., and Charles Trentham, the President's pastor, are also to come.

Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work For June 5

A Christian Heritage Of Faith

By Bill Duncan, First, Long Beach
II Timothy 1:1-18

The year 1976 was a great experience for our country. It was good for the church to realize what a Christian heritage we have in America. In tracing our "roots" we need to look for those wonderful contributions that have helped us to be the kind of people we are today. We can be thankful to God for his wonderful people.



Paul recognized the spiritual inheritance of Timothy. Many people believe that Grandmother Lois might have been converted at Pentecost and come home to win her daughter Eunice who was a Jewish convert. Paul ascribed sincere faith to the two women.

It is good for Christian people to be reminded again and again of what has come to them from Christian parents and the long history of our glorious faith.

The book of II Timothy is an attempt to put nerve into Pastor Timothy for the hard times ahead. The gospel has been entrusted to every Christian and we must be faithful in word and service as Timothy was.

Fellowship
The warmth of affection between Paul and Timothy became the example of fellowship. Paul's love for Timothy, his prayers for Timothy's well being, and his gratitude for his faith were the sources of great encouragement. For every age Christian fellowship is a vital element in Christian growth and service.

In his prison cell, Paul longed for the fellowship of Timothy. He was as dear to him as his own soul. "Christian fellowship is priceless, and we appreciate it most in the dark hours of our experience."

The fellowship of prayer is the sweetest kind of sharing. Paul's prayer must have been most helpful. Intercession for Timothy was a regular part of Paul's prayer life.

Family
Paul knew that a reminder of his family's faith would put determination and courage into the young pastor. Timothy was taught the Scriptures in his home by his mother and grandmother. It is certain that such a fidelity to service he needed, to feel the responsibility to help pass on the faith to another generation.

Some people have trouble sharing their faith with their children. Teenagers may challenge the belief of their parents. In this, it may seem that adults are more defenders of the faith than communicators of the faith. We all need to keep our experience up-to-date so that our children will be able to see the vital place of Christian faith in our lives.

Remember, the faithfulness of Christians who have preceded us should motivate us to renew our loyalty to God. We should be especially grateful for loved ones.

Faithfulness
Spiritual zeal is not automatic; it must be fed and fanned like a smother-

ing fire. "The gift of God which is within you" is the spiritual equipment that God imparted to Timothy for his work as a servant of Christ. All Christians are bestowed with gifts that meet the needs and responsibilities of individuals. When the spiritual gifts are not exercised the church suffers. The qualities that Timothy needed most were courage to face opposition; power to cope with problems; love—especially for his people.

The challenge to faithfulness was rooted in his glorious concept of the good news of Jesus. Any suffering that comes from loyalty to Christ and the gospel must be borne in the power of God. God's power gives one courage and strength. This power is to be a

Christian when being a Christian looks impossible.

The preacher is to be an announcer of good news. Paul said that he had no apologies to make for his devotion to his Lord and the truth he preached. Faithfully he had planted the gospel seed in the Gentile world. Paul had committed his own future to Christ's keeping. He had come to know the Lord's steadfast love, and he was sure the Lord would never prove untrue.

Reflection upon the great realities of the Christian faith should stimulate us to greater love, loyalty, and service. Only with the Holy Spirit can we carry out our responsibility to defend and propagate the gospel that God has entrusted to us.

Sunday School Lesson: International For June 5

An Enslaved People's Hope

By William J. Falls
Exodus 1-2

In the fall of 1975 we studied the book of Genesis, ending with Joseph's father and brothers settling in Egypt where grain was available. This lesson begins a series entitled "From Slavery to Nationhood," which traces events in the life of Israel from slavery in Egypt to the development of the monarchy in the land of promise. Passages from six Bible books, mostly Exodus, will focus on those events as mileposts in the growth of God's people. Lessons in June deal with their struggle for freedom. In July we will study what was involved in the covenant relationship between God and his people. Lessons for August will look at key figures in the nation's fight to survive in the new homeland.



How The Hebrews Became Slaves
(1:1-14)
Of course, the whole story began when his jealous brothers sold Joseph to a caravan of traders headed for Egypt. After interpreting the pharaoh's dreams, Joseph became a higher officer to save the country from

famine by controlling the food supply. Eventually Joseph's family had to go to Egypt for food, and the pharaoh invited them to make their home there. They stayed and multiplied.

About four centuries later (Gen. 15:13; Ex. 12:40) the Egyptian ruler, probably Seti I, noted that because the Hebrews were "more and mightier than" the Egyptians, some controls must be set up. He did not honor the memory of Joseph. Perhaps he meant that the Hebrews outnumbered the Egyptians only in the capital city of Goshen. At any rate, the Hebrews were subjected to forced labor, and their first assignment may have been warehouse cities for military supplies. As they seemed to thrive on hard work, "the Egyptians came to loathe the sight of them. So they treated their Israelite slaves with ruthless severity" (vv. 12-13, NEB).

One Hebrew Grew Up In The Palace
(2:1-10)

Pharaoh's attempt to break the spirit of the Hebrews with hard work did not succeed. Then he commanded the Hebrew midwives to kill baby boys when they were born. When they refused, he commanded his own people to do it. That was the context in which Moses was born.

For generation this has been a favorite story of children in the church. So, adults may think they know all about it. But check on: (1) bulrushes, that

could be woven into baskets and boats and became the source of an ancient kind of paper; (2) "slime" and "pitch," which were natural asphalt used for all kinds of caking; (3) Miriam's going immediately to Moses' mother, which seems to indicate that Jochebed expected her child to be found by the princess. Because she had found him, she claimed him as her son (v. 10). Growing up in the palace, Moses was exposed to a wealthy and advanced civilization. As a nation, Egypt was nearly 2,000 years old. Moses' training was probably the best of his time.

Moses Struck Against Cruelty
(2:11-25)

Whether Moses recognized his kinship with the slaves we can assume, but he resented the cruelty of an Egyptian to a Hebrew and reacted with murder. When he tried to arbitrate between two fighting Hebrews the next day, he discovered that his violence was no secret. Although he had shown courage and a strong sense of justice—and was called the son of the princess—Moses would have to answer for his deed. He had to leave the country.

In the land of Midian he helped some sisters draw water for their sheep by driving away some contentious shepherds. In time, he joined the household of Reuel by marrying one of the daughters and taking a job as a shepherd. By the time his son was

born, Moses saw himself as a sojourner—as the Hebrews felt in Egypt—and he named the baby Gershom. A new era had begun in Moses' life.



Bell Business Suite Designated At Carey

Bell Business Suite at Carey College was officially designated as such when portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Bell were placed in the office by J. D. Sims, vice-president for business affairs and by Mrs. Sims, office manager. The Bells have been generous benefactors of the college for many years. Bell, now deceased, formerly owned and operated Bell's Trading Post in Hattiesburg. An appropriate plaque is being prepared to accompany the portraits now hanging in Bell Business Suite in Tatum Court.

Ministerial Couples Graduate

At the close of the 104th annual session at Blue Mountain College, two ministerial students, pastors in north Mississippi, and their wives, received degrees. Arranged, left to right, these grads are, Albert Wilkerson, pastor, First Church, Southaven; Jeanette King Wilkerson, Southaven, wife of the pastor; Bachelor of Arts degree; Sherry Burns Putt, Rienzi, Bachelor of Science in Education; and Keith Putt, Rienzi, Bachelor of Arts. Mr. and Mrs. Putt left immediately for New Orleans, where they will do graduate study.

Off The Record

The coach called the Little Leaguer in from center field for a conference. "See here, Eddie," said the coach, "you know the principles of good sportsmanship that the Little League practices. You know we don't tolerate temper tantrums, shouting at the umpire, or abusive language. Do I make myself clear?" "Yes, sir," replied the Little Leaguer. "Well, then, Eddie," sighed the coach, "would you please try to explain it to your mother?" — HONEY GREER.